



April 21, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communication, GN Docket No. 16-306

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 19, 2017, Alison Neplokh, Bob Weller, Rick Kaplan and the undersigned, all of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), met with Michelle Carey, Barbara Kreisman and Hillary DeNigro of the Media Bureau and Jean Kiddoo of the Incentive Auction Task Force. During the meeting, NAB discussed the repacking of broadcast television stations following the successful close of the incentive auction, and steps the Media Bureau plans to take to manage the transition and minimize disruption.

NAB very much appreciates the Media Bureau's flexibility and willingness to work with TV stations to develop creative solutions that will allow stations to avoid service disruptions. The Media Bureau, however, is in the position of having to develop measures to limit consumer harm because of Commission-level decisions made in the prior Administration. The current 39-month deadline should not be the driver of the entire process, such that TV and radio station listeners are deprived of programming in the name of delivering more spectrum to a single national wireless carrier.

Within the constraints imposed upon it, the Media Bureau is taking several helpful steps – including its appointment of regional coordinators to monitor repacking progress and serve as points of contact for repacked stations.¹ NAB is committed to working with the Commission and the Media Bureau to minimize viewer and listener disruption during this unprecedented transition, while still ensuring the transition proceeds as efficiently as possible.

¹ Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Announce Regional Coordinators to Facilitate Post-Auction Transition for Broadcast Stations, Public Notice, MB Docket No. 16-306, GN Docket No. 12-268, DA 17-376 (April 20, 2017).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick McFadden", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick McFadden
Associate General Counsel,
National Association of Broadcasters

cc: Meeting Attendees